CLAIMS:

5   What is claimed is:

1.   A method of transferring data from a first partition of
      a partitioned computer system to a second partition
10   comprising the steps of:

      marking a buffer containing the data as a "read-only"
      buffer, the buffer being in the first partition; and

15   passing a pointer to the buffer to the second
      partition.

2.   The method of Claim 1 wherein upon passing the pointer
      to the buffer to the second partition, the buffer is
20   re-assigned to the second partition.

3.   The method of Claim 2 wherein before reading the data,
      the second partition ensures that the buffer containing
      the data is a "read-only" buffer.

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4.   The method of Claim 3 wherein after the second
      partition reads the data, the buffer is re-assigned
      back to the first partition.

30 5.   A method of transferring data from a first partition of
      a partitioned computer system to a second partition
      comprising the steps of:

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marking a buffer containing the data as a "read-only" buffer, the buffer being in the first partition;

5   passing a pointer to the buffer to the second partition; and

re-assigning the buffer to the second partition.

10 6.   The method of Claim 5 wherein after the second partition reads the data, the buffer is re-assigned back to the first partition.

7.   A computer program product on a computer readable
15   medium for transferring data from a first partition of a partitioned computer system to a second partition comprising:

code means for marking a buffer containing the data as
20   a "read-only" buffer, the buffer being in the first partition; and

code means for passing a pointer to the buffer to the second partition.

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8.   The computer program product of Claim 7 wherein upon passing the pointer to the buffer to the second partition, the buffer is re-assigned to the second partition.

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9. The computer program product of Claim 8 wherein before reading the data, the second partition ensures that the buffer containing the data is a "read-only" buffer.

5   10. The computer program product of Claim 9 wherein after the second partition reads the data, the buffer is re-assigned back to the first partition.

11. A computer program product on a computer readable
10   medium for transferring data from a first partition of a partitioned computer system to a second partition comprising:

code means for marking a buffer containing the data as
15   a "read-only" buffer, the buffer being in the first partition;

code means for passing a pointer to the buffer to the second partition; and
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code means for re-assigning the buffer to the second partition.

12. The computer program product of Claim 11 wherein after
25   the second partition reads the data, the buffer is re-assigned back to the first partition.

13. An apparatus for transferring data from a first partition of a partitioned computer system to a second
30   partition comprising:

means for marking a buffer containing the data as a "read-only" buffer, the buffer being in the first partition; and

5   means for passing a pointer to the buffer to the second partition.

14.   The apparatus of Claim 13 wherein upon passing the pointer to the buffer to the second partition, the
10   buffer is re-assigned to the second partition.

15.   The apparatus of Claim 14 wherein before reading the data, the second partition ensures that the buffer containing the data is a "read-only" buffer.

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16.   The apparatus of Claim 15 wherein after the second partition reads the data, the buffer is re-assigned back to the first partition.

20 17. An apparatus for of transferring data from a first partition of a partitioned computer system to a second partition comprising:

        means for marking a buffer containing the data as a
25   "read-only" buffer, the buffer being in the first partition;

        means for passing a pointer to the buffer to the second partition; and
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        means for re-assigning the buffer to the second partition.

18. The apparatus of Claim 17 wherein after the second partition reads the data, the buffer is re-assigned back to the first partition.

19. A computer system being partitioned into a plurality of partitions and being able to transfer data from a first partition to a second comprising:

    at least one memory device for storing code data; and

    at least one processor for processing the code data to mark a buffer containing the data as a "read-only" buffer, the buffer being in the first partition, and to pass a pointer to the buffer to the second partition.

20. The computer system of Claim 19 wherein upon passing the pointer to the buffer to the second partition, the buffer is re-assigned to the second partition.

21. The computer system of Claim 20 wherein before reading the data, the second partition ensures that the buffer containing the data is a "read-only" buffer.

22. The computer system of Claim 21 wherein after the second partition reads the data, the buffer is re-assigned back to the first partition.

23. A computer system being partitioned into a plurality of partitions and being able to transfer data from a first partition to a second comprising:

at least one memory device for storing code data; and

at least one processor for processing the code data to mark a buffer containing the data as a "read-only" buffer, the buffer being in the first partition, to pass a pointer to the buffer to the second partition, and to re-assign the buffer to the second partition.

24. The computer system of Claim 23 wherein after the second partition reads the data, the buffer is re-assigned back to the first partition.

25. A method of transferring data with the utmost security comprising the steps of:

storing the data in a buffer of a first partition of a partitioned computer system;

marking the buffer as a "read-only" buffer; and

passing a pointer to the buffer to a second partition of the system thereby transferring the data the utmost security.

26. The method of Claim 25 wherein upon passing the pointer to the buffer to the second partition, the buffer is re-assigned to the second partition.

27. The method of Claim 26 wherein before reading the data, the second partition ensures that the buffer containing the data is a "read-only" buffer.

28. The method of Claim 27 wherein after the second partition reads the data, the buffer is re-assigned back to the first partition.

5   29. A computer program product on a computer readable medium for transferring data with the utmost security comprising:

code means for storing the data in a buffer of a first
10   partition of a partitioned computer system;

code means for marking the buffer as a "read-only" buffer; and

15   code means for passing a pointer to the buffer to a second partition of the system thereby transferring the data the utmost security.

30. The computer program product of Claim 29 wherein upon
20   passing the pointer to the buffer to the second partition, the buffer is re-assigned to the second partition.

31. The computer program product of Claim 30 wherein before
25   reading the data, the second partition ensures that the buffer containing the data is a "read-only" buffer.

32. The computer program product of Claim 31 wherein after the second partition reads the data, the buffer is re-
30   assigned back to the first partition.

33. An apparatus for transferring data with the utmost security comprising:

means for storing the data in a buffer of a first partition of a partitioned computer system;

means for marking the buffer as a "read-only" buffer; and

means for passing a pointer to the buffer to a second partition of the system thereby transferring the data the utmost security.

34. The apparatus of Claim 33 wherein upon passing the pointer to the buffer to the second partition, the buffer is re-assigned to the second partition.

35. The apparatus of Claim 34 wherein before reading the data, the second partition ensures that the buffer containing the data is a "read-only" buffer.

36. The apparatus of Claim 35 wherein after the second partition reads the data, the buffer is re-assigned back to the first partition.

37. A computer system for transferring data with the utmost security, the computer system being divided into partitions, the computer system comprising:

at least one storage device for storing code data; and

at least one processor for processing the code data to store the data in a buffer of a first partition of a partitioned computer system, to mark the buffer as a "read-only" buffer, and to pass a pointer to the buffer

5   to a second partition of the system thereby transferring the data the utmost security.

38.   The computer system method of Claim 37 wherein upon passing the pointer to the buffer to the second

10   partition, the buffer is re-assigned to the second partition.

39.   The computer system of Claim 38 wherein before reading the data, the second partition ensures that the buffer

15   containing the data is a "read-only" buffer.

40.   The computer system of Claim 39 wherein after the second partition reads the data, the buffer is re-assigned back to the first partition.

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